

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 IOE-00 NEA-07 OES-02

L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02

INRE-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 /046 W

-----121853Z 068044 /47

O P 121725Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7299

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 3674

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO IS XF PFOR PORG

SUBJECT: WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY - MIDDLE EAST ISSUE; ISRAELI  
PROPOSAL RE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

REF: GENEVA 3106

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MERON, ACCOMPANIED BY CHIEF OF ISRAELI DELEGATION TO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY AND ONE OF HIS MISSION OFFICERS, CALLED ON ME THIS EVENING. HE HAD GIVEN ADVANCE NOTICE THAT HE WAS BRINGING "SOMETHING TO OFFER" CONCERNING THE UP-COMING MIDDLE EAST ISSUE IN THE ASSEMBLY. DR. EHRlich OF USDEL JOINED ME IN MEETING WITH THEM.

2. MERON SAID HE HAD TEXT OF AN OFFER (SEE PARA 5 BELOW) JUST APPROVED BY JERUSALEM, IN PART IN RESPONSE TO U.S. SUGGESTIONS THAT GOI ADOPT MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION ON QUESTION OF VISIT OF WHO SPECIAL COMMITTEE. HE SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOW TEXT TO WHATEVER ARAB  
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DELEGATIONS WE THOUGHT MOST APPROACHABLE ON SUBJECT AND, IF THEY WERE ATTRACTED, TO PROPOSE A SCENARIO UNDER WHICH ARAB DELS WOULD NOT PRESS THEIR G-77 APPROVED RESOLUTION TO A VOTE BUT WOULD INSTEAD SUPPORT A NEW RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY ONE OF THEIR FRIENDS. THE NEW RESOLUTION WOULD SIMPLY REFER TO LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION AND URGE ISRAEL TO ALLOW THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT ISRAEL

SOON. IT WOULD BE INTRODUCED AND VOTED THROUGH BY THE ARABS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS (WHAT U.S. AND ISRAELI POSITIONS SHOULD BE IN THAT EVENT NOT DISCUSSED), RIGHT AFTER THE ISRAELI DELEGATION HAD MADE THE STATEMENT CONTAINED IN THE PROPOSED TEXT. MERON INDICATED THAT TEXT WAS POSSIBLY SUBJECT TO SOME MODIFICATION IN JERUSALEM, IF ARABS HAD PARTICULAR OBJECTIONS THAT GOI FELT IT COULD MEET WITHOUT COMPROMISING BASIC THRUST OF ISRAELI MESSAGE.

3. WE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSED STATEMENT WAS PRETTY STIFF AND WAS NOT OFFERING VERY MUCH IN RETURN FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ARAB/G-77 RESOLUTION. THIS WAS WHEN MERON MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF SOME LANGUAGE CHANGES ONCE ARAB REACTION ASCERTAINED. WE AGREED TO SPEAK IMMEDIATELY WITH ARAB MISSIONS AND ARE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET WITH EGYPTIANS AND/OR SYRIANS TONIGHT. IF THEY REACT POSITIVELY, WE WILL NEED THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PLAY IT FROM THERE. IF NOT, WE HAVE ISRAELI PERMISSION TO USE THE TEXT AMONG OTHER DELEGATIONS IN CONCERTED EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE, BEFORE VOTE ON G-77 RESOLUTION, THAT ISRAEL MADE AN EFFORT TO COMPROMISE AND WAS TURNED DOWN. WE BELIEVE SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD HAVE SOME MEASURE OF SUCCESS.

4. WE RECOGNIZE, OF COURSE, THAT FAILURE OF ARABS TO ACCEPT ISRAELI OFFER WOULD, WHEN AND IF IT BECOMES PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, STIR U.S. PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST "POLITICIZED" WHO.

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5. TEXT OF PROPOSED ISRAELI STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

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THE POSITION OF MAY DELEGATION WITH REGARD TO A POSSIBLE VISIT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES HAS BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD BY MANY DELEGATIONS. WE FEEL THEREFORE THAT IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THIS HEALTH ASSEMBLY WERE WE TO EXPLAIN IN AN AUTHORITATIVE WAY WHAT OUR POSITION IS AT THIS POINT IN TIME.

THE EVENTS OF LAST YEAR ARE WELL KNOWN TO ALL OF YOU. ALTHOUGH THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S WORK WAS AND CONTINUES TO BE BASED ON BIASED ONE-SIDED AND UNFAIR RESOLUTIONS WHICH WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO ACCEPT AS A REASONABLE MANDATE, WE DID INVITE, LAST YEAR, THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT THE TERRITORIES CONCERNED, TO MOVE FREELY ABOUT, AND TO LEARN THE REAL SITUATION WITH REGARD TO HEALTH. OUR STATEMENTS STRESSING THE POSITIVE NATURE OF THE

PREVAILING HEALTH SITUATION AND THE MEASURES CONTINUOUSLY TAKEN FOR THE FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF THAT SITUATION HAVE BEEN VINDICATED. WE ALL KNOW THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PREPARED A REPORT WHICH WAS OBJECTIVE, AND WHICH PRAISED THE PREVAILING HEALTH SITUATION. UNFORTUNATELY, THE ARAB MAJORITY USED ITS POWER IN THE HEALTH ASSEMBLY TO DECLARE THE REPORT UNRECEIVABLE AND TO PASS ANOTHER CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION. THOSE STEPS WERE TAKEN IN GROSS VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS OF LAW. MANY SUPPORTERS OF THE WHO FELT THAT THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE LAST HEALTH ASSEMBLY MEANT THAT A SELF-DESTRUCT MECHANISM HAS BEEN ACTIVATED IN WHO BY THOSE ENJOYING MAJORITY SUPPORT HERE. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE EVENTS OF LAST YEAR WOULD MAKE FUTURE COOPERATION OF ANY GOVERNMENT WITH THE COMMITTEE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 3674

LIMDIS

NEVERTHELESS, AND DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS RECONSTITUTED AS LATE AS JANUARY, MY GOVERNMENT HAS MAINTAINED WITH THE COMMITTEE USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONTACTS, AS STATED IN THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE. WE WOULD LIKE ALSO TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO DOCUMENT A/30/INF.DOC./4 WHICH CONTAINS IMPORTANT AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING HEALTH IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES. FROM EVERYTHING THAT I HAVE ALREADY SAID, IT APPEARS CLEARLY THAT WE FEEL THAT WE HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE AND THERE IS A LOT OF WHICH WE CAN JUSTLY BE PROUD OF. INDEED, DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS A MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ICRC HAS WORKED FULL TIME EXAMINING THE HEALTH SITUATION OF THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES.

WE ARE CONFIDENT THEREFORE THAT A NEW STUDY TOUR OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS, IF CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO STRICT MEDICAL CRITERIA, WITHOUT POLITICAL STRAIGHT-JACKET, WOULD BEAR OUT THE SAME CONCLUSIONS, NAMELY THE STEADY RISING OF HEALTH STANDARDS IN THE TERRITORIES. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD OF COURSE, BE ABLE TO FUNCTION WITH ONLY ONE PRUPOSE, NAMELY THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH AS CALLED FOR BY THE CONSTITUTION OF WHO.

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IF THIS ASSEMBLY COULD OFFER ASSURANCES THAT THE WORK OF THE SPICAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO THIS PRINCIPLE, MY GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO CONSIDER POSITIVELY THE COMMITTEE'S REQUEST TO VISIT THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES.

AS FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS AND TIMING OF SUCH A STUDY, A CERTAIN DELAY IN OBTAINING A CABINET DECISION HAS TO BE EXPECTED, AS IN ALL OTHER DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES IN THE MIDST OF AN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. AS YOU KNOW, ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN ISRAEL ON THE 17TH. I CAN ASSURE THE ASSEMBLY THAT THE POSITION AS STATED BEFORE WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE NEW CABINET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IT IS OF COURSE OUR HOPE THAT THE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF ISRAEL WILL BE RECIPROCATED BY A PARALLEL ATTITUDE OF THIS HEALTH ASSEMBLY. MORE ONE-SIDED CONDEMNATIONS THREATS AND ASPERSIONS CANNOT BUT HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON OUR POSITION.

WE SINCERELY HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WILL NOT BE THE CASE. WE TRUST THAT ALL COUNTRIES GENUINELY DEVOTED TO THE FUTURE OF OUR ORGANIZATION WILL FIRMLY RESIST ANY FURTHER ATTEMPT OF POLITICIZATION OF THE WHO IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CAUSE OF HEALTH IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN THE WORLD.  
END QTE.SORENSEN

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## Message Attributes

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